

# Big Bend

## Ranger Programs

National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior

Big Bend National Park  
Rio Grande Wild & Scenic River



### September 6 – September 19, 2015

#### Sunday, September 6

**9:30 AM Guided Walk – “Life at the Windmill”** The desert may seem to be an impossible place to live but a significant number of living things thrive in this extreme environment. Join Ranger B. Smith for an hour of discovery and exploration into the secret, and not so secret, stories of life at the windmill. Meet at Dugout Wells, six miles south of Panther Junction Visitor Center. Bring water and a hat. ¼ mile. 1 hour.

#### Monday, September 7

**9:30 AM Guided Walk – “Silent Beauty”** Did you know there are more than 180 species of butterflies that frequent Big Bend? Join Ranger C. Ballou to learn about the lives and habits of butterflies as we search for these gentle and beautiful pollinators. Meet at Dugout Wells, 6 miles southeast of Panther Junction. Bring water, a hat, and binoculars. 1 hour.

#### Wednesday, September 9

**9:30 PM Evening Program -- “Star-gazing with Binoculars and the Naked Eye”** You don’t need a telescope to locate and enjoy many of the natural wonders in the night skies over Big Bend National Park. Join Volunteer R. Wonite for a laser-guided tour of the more prominent stars, star clusters and nebulae in the current evening sky. Meet at the pullout near Mile 15.3 on the road to Rio Grande Village. Wheelchair accessible. Bring binoculars and/or a chair if you have them. Duration 45 minutes to 1 hour.

#### Thursday, September 10

**9:30 PM Evening Program -- “Star-gazing with Binoculars and the Naked Eye”** You don’t need a telescope to locate and enjoy many of the natural wonders in the night skies over Big Bend National Park. Join Volunteer R. Wonite for a laser-guided tour of the more prominent stars, star clusters and nebulae in the current evening sky. Meet at the pullout near Mile 15.3 on the road to Rio Grande Village. Wheelchair accessible. Bring binoculars and/or a chair if you have them. Duration 45 minutes to 1 hour.

#### Friday, September 11

**9:30 AM Guided Walk – “Desert Trivia”** What defines a desert? Considered desolate, uninhabitable lands by some, deserts can be places of spectacular diversity and stark beauty. Join Ranger M. Lavender and learn about the deserts of the US, and what makes the Chihuahuan Desert of Big Bend so special. Meet at Dugout Wells, 6 miles southeast of Panther Junction. Bring water, a hat, and good walking shoes. ½ mile. 1 hour.

#### Saturday, September 12

**8:30 PM Evening Program – “Big Bend’s Top 10”** What makes Big Bend special or unique among national parks? Join Ranger J. Jurado for a look at the top ten things Big Bend can boast. Meet at the Chisos Basin Amphitheater. Wheelchair accessible. Bring a flashlight. 1 hour.

#### Sunday, September 13

**9:30 AM Guided Walk – “Silent Beauty”** Did you know there are more than 180 species of butterflies that frequent Big Bend? Join Ranger C. Ballou to learn about the lives and habits of butterflies as we search for these gentle and beautiful pollinators. Meet at Dugout Wells, 6 miles southeast of Panther Junction. Bring water, a hat, and binoculars. 1 hour.

#### Monday, September 14

**9:30 AM Program – “Tree Army”** Who was Roosevelt’s Tree Army, and what brought them to the Chisos? Meet Ranger P. Alexander to learn more about these young men and their lasting legacy in Big Bend National Park. Meet at the Chisos Basin trailhead. 1/3 mile. 45 minutes.

#### Friday, September 18

**9:30 AM Guided Walk – “Meeting Mulciber”** Who is Mulciber and what does he have to do with the Chisos Mountains? Join Ranger B. Smith to meet Mulciber and discover his part in the geology of these desert peaks. Meet at the Lost Mine Trailhead. Bring water, a hat, and good walking shoes. 1.5 miles. 1.5 hours.

#### Saturday, September 19

**10:00 AM Program – “Bear Country”** Whether you are staying at the Lodge, camping, or hiking in the Chisos Mountains or foothills you are in *Bear Country*. Join Ranger M. Lavender to learn more about how to enjoy Bear Country safely and agreeably with the unique population of Mexican Black Bears that make Big Bend home. Meet at the patio outside the Chisos Mountains Lodge. 45 minutes.

**8:30 PM Evening Program – “Some Endangered Evening”** Is it dark where you live? Can you see as many stars as you once could? A dark night sky is an important factor in the lives of living creatures planet-wide, a way for humans to connect to days past, when artificial light was non-existent. Join Ranger B. Smith for an evening about evenings. A telescope will be set up to view a celestial object. Meet at the Chisos Basin Amphitheater. Bring a flashlight. Wheelchair accessible. 1 hour.

#### Not able to attend a program? Consider these alternatives:

Enjoy the breath-taking beauty of Big Bend National Park in cool air conditioned comfort with our 22 minute Park Orientation film. Available daily on request at the Panther Junction Visitor Center.